

*Michael
+ Nicole*



*Thank you for taking
time to get to know us.*

We are excited to get to know you as well. We are Michael and Nicole.

We cannot understand the challenges that you are facing in making this decision but know that we are grateful to have crossed your path. We are hoping to be a part of your plan for the future.

We love children more than anything. Most of our lives are surrounded by children in the community. We have hoped for a child for a long time now. We have faced the challenges of infertility and that is what brought us to adoption. Michael's mother was adopted so it is very close to our hearts. Your child will be surrounded by love by so many of our closest family and friends.

We hope that through this book you can learn all about us. Our hope is that this is the start of a beautiful journey together.

Love, Michael & Nicole



HOW IT ALL STARTED

We were set up by mutual friends. Blind date style. We had absolutely no idea what each other looked like. Michael took Nicole to his favorite restaurant which is Outback but he wasn't ready for the date to end there. He then took her to the local arcade where they played games for a couple of hours before the night ended. This date was the start of a fun and adventurous life together.

Four years later Michael proposed to Nicole. They went to Chicago to go watch a college basketball game. The day before the game we decided to explore the city with our friends who joined us on our trip. It was a snowy day and we were walking through a park when Michael called Nicole's name and she turned around and he was on one knee. We went back to that same spot about a year later but this time it wasn't snowing and we realized that the beautiful park that he proposed in was actually a dog park. It is very fitting since we love our little dog so much. A year and a half later we got married with 200 of our closest friends and family.





hi!
I'M
NICOLE

WHAT MICHAEL LOVES MOST . . .



My dream job is to be a stay at home mama. I truly love children and always have. I am currently a nanny part time but cannot wait for the day that I can stay at home and watch our child grow and learn new things. I enjoy spending time with my friends and family. Every once and a while when I get extra time you can find me in my office creating something. I love to craft and create things. Making shirts, personalized items and even handmade birthday decorations are some of my most favorite things to make. I also enjoy a good DIY project.

If I am not in my craft room making something or out spending time with family and friends then you can find me with Michael. I love to spend time with him. He really is my best friend and we have so much fun together. If you are looking for us we are probably on a basketball court somewhere but if we are not there then we are most likely out exploring or on the water.

What I love about Nicole is her warm heart and her wonderful personality. Nicole has many qualities that make her a great person. She's very selfless and she supports me when it comes to my love for coaching. She takes care of my players as if they were her own children and has a great way with children in general. She is nurturing and has a big heart. She is very artistic and crafty. The way she takes care of others is a great quality that would make her a great mother.



hey!
I'M
MICHAEL

WHAT NICOLE LOVES MOST...

I am a shipping and receiving manager at a large family owned business. I am also a high school and travel basketball coach. I have always loved sports and grew up always playing them. Basketball was always my favorite sport and has turned into my passion and I love sharing it with the kids I coach. Being able to impact their lives not only on the court but also watching them grow throughout the years academically, personally and as a player brings me joy. If I am not on the basketball court then you can find me on the water, fishing or spending time with Nicole and my family.



Michael may be the kindest person I know. He loves everyone and everyone loves him. He is very outgoing and friendly. I joke with him because we will be out somewhere and he will smile and say hello to people and I will ask "do you know them?" and 99% of the time the answer is "No, I was just saying hi." He can make friends with just about anyone. Michael is amazing with kids. He is so patient with them and really takes time to teach them new things but to do it in a fun way. I watch him coach and all the kids love him. Not only is he coaching the kids in basketball he loves watching them grow into great young men and leaders in the community. Michael will be an amazing father. He was really meant to be a father. The time and dedication that he puts into the kids he coaches is just a sneak peak of how much time he is going to put into his own child. I also watch him play with our nephew. Our nephew adores Uncle Mikey. He relates to kids so well and I can't wait to watch him become a father.

DOING WHAT WE LOVE

Michael and I spend most of our free time in a basketball gym around the kids he coaches. He is the head coach and I am the team mom. We love being around the kids, they are so much fun and it is so great to make such a huge impact in their lives. We have built great relationships with the families and enjoy spending time with them. We love to travel. We try to go on many vacations a year. Most are just extended weekends but it is the perfect amount of time to get away and explore new places. We always do fun things while we are away on vacation such as boating, hiking, skiing and the list goes on. We travel a lot with our friends and their children.



Michael and I make it a point to go to at least one professional or collegiate sporting event a year. Believe it or not basketball games are our favorite but football games are not far behind. Every year we host Friendsgiving. We invite all our closest friends and we have a potluck style feast. It is such a great feeling to have our house filled with so much love.



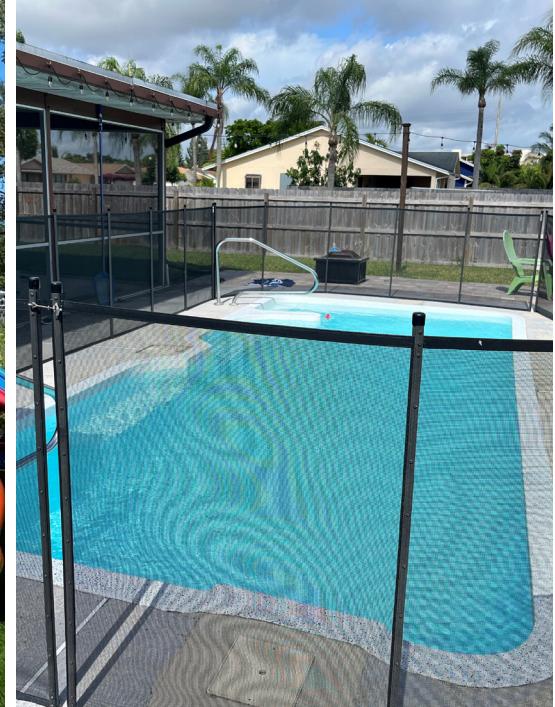
A FEW OF OUR TRADITIONS

Another tradition that we love is our annual Christmas/Secret Santa party. The party always has a theme and that makes it so much more fun. Some of our themes have been ugly sweaters, pjs and flannel. Watching the kids try to guess their Secret Santa is always so fun.

our HOME + NEIGHBORHOOD

BAM BAM (OUR DOG)

We have a little Dachshund, Terrier, and Chi mix who goes by Bam Bam. He is 4 years old and is an energetic, fun, and loving boy. He will play his little heart for a little but then shortly after you will find him snuggled up in a blanket somewhere around the house. He loves cuddling with us and really just loves to be loved on.



We live in a suburban neighborhood and are less than 10 miles from the beach. We both grew up in the same area that we live in now. We have tons of friends nearby and both our parents live less than 10 miles away. Our friends are more like family to us and they are an amazing support system.

We live in a neighborhood filled with families with kids who are always out riding bikes or playing basketball. All our schools are very close to our home. They are all less than 4 miles away. We have quite a few very nice parks near our home that are always filled with children playing.

Our house is the perfect size. It is a one story home with 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. We love having gatherings with our friends and families. I love to host and decorate for every occasion and holiday. Our backyard may be the best feature of our home. We have a nice screened-in patio. Outside of the patio we have a very large fenced in yard with a pool. We cannot wait to turn our backyard into a child's play yard.

Nicole's FAMILY

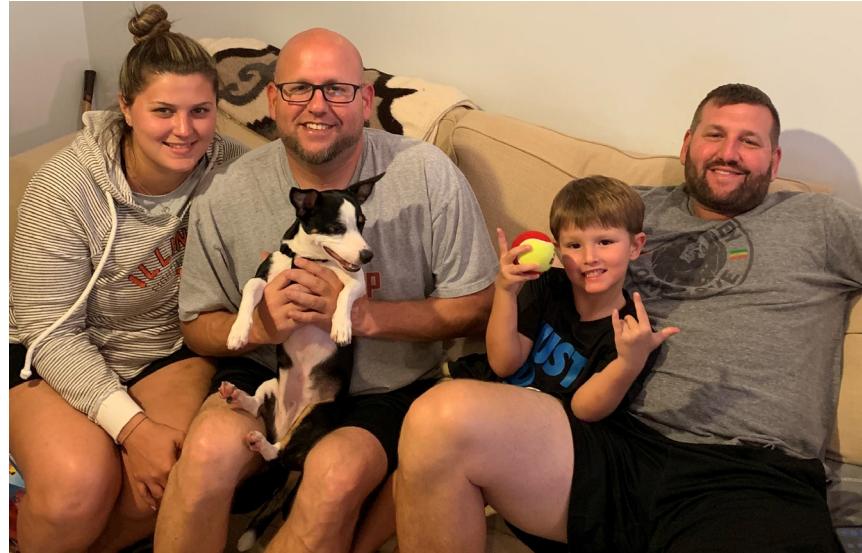


I am extremely close to my parents!

I talk to my mom just about everyday. Not only is our relationship close, so is the distance. My parents live less than 10 miles away and we see them at least 2 times a week. Michael is also very close to my parents. My brother lives about 3 hours away but I still get to see him often. The rest of my family lives in New Jersey so we don't get to see them as often as we would like but we still see them. My grandmother is moving down to Florida soon and will be very close to us. She can not wait to be a major part of our new chapter in life. My family is so supportive of everything we do and are there for us all the time.



Michael's FAMILY



I have a loving family that lives within 2 miles from us.

My nephew is 6 years old and we see him frequently. I have an older brother who I am very close to and we coach basketball together at the high school. My parents are heavily involved in supporting us when we are coaching basketball and in life in general. They are always in the stands cheering us on and this is an amazing feeling. My extended family lives in New Jersey. It is such a small world that Nicole's family and my family both live in the same town in New Jersey. It is nice to visit them all at one time.

OUR PROMISE:

WE PROMISE THAT WE WILL LOVE THE BEAUTIFUL LIFE YOU HAVE CARRIED WITH EVERYTHING WE HAVE. WE WILL ALWAYS PROVIDE A SAFE, FUN AND EVERLASTING LOVING HOME. THIS WONDERFUL CHILD WILL BE RAISED TO HAVE SO MUCH APPRECIATION FOR YOU AND KNOW YOU HAVE MADE THE BEST DECISION FOR THEM. WE WILL STAND BY YOUR SIDE WHEN THINGS GET TOUGH.

